

THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

We publish elsewhere the proclamation of President Grant declaring the Fifteenth Amendment duly ratified, and as a part of the Constitution of the United States. It is not for us to review the manner by which this end has been accomplished or to discuss its constitutionality. The proclamation by Secretary Fish recites that twenty-nine States have ratified the amendment. To make up this number he includes New York, which subsequently withdrew her ratification, and Indiana, whose ratification Mr. Lincoln asserted in the House of Representatives was procured by fraud and chicanery. But practically this makes but little difference, as Georgia will not be admitted to representation before ratifying the amendment, and this would make the requisite number, twenty-eight, without counting New York and Indiana.

To discuss the legality of coercing States to vote for amendments to the Constitution, or requiring them to do so before admitting their Senators and Representatives into Congress would be striking at the legality of both the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments. The manner in which the Southern States have been forced to give their assent to these amendments is a matter of history, and will be judged of by that record when the purposes of the present have passed away and the changes which they have wrought have been tested by time.

But with these things we have now nothing to do. It is enough for us to know that the Fifteenth Amendment is officially declared to have become a part of "that revered instrument," as the President facetiously styles the Constitution of the United States. Whether legally or illegally enacted and ratified, it is the law of the land, and it is our duty and purpose to so recognize it. The incorporation of this amendment into the fundamental law of the land settles the question of negro suffrage and removes it from the arena of party politics. The colored people of the South will find that those who opposed giving them the privilege of suffrage upon principle will be the foremost to defend them in this privilege now. It will be our duty, as well as our interest, to elevate the colored people, morally and intellectually, so that they can appreciate and use the ballot for the welfare of our common country. Destined to live together under the same general and local governments, the interests of good citizens, white and black, are identical, and when reason, prejudice and intelligence takes the place of ignorance, none will be more ready to acknowledge the fact than the colored people themselves.

In this connection we quote from the address of the Conservative members of the Legislature, giving their views upon this subject:

"In the last contest in this State the principal issue was upon the question of colored suffrage and the civil rights of the colored race. That matter has been decided upon a solemn appeal, by the people of the United States. The guarantee of their rights has now become a part of the Constitution. To that Constitution we have ever been willing to defer; to the laws made in pursuance of it, we yield, and ever have yielded a ready obedience.

The reconstruction acts of Congress, with the civil and political rights they confer on the colored race, we regard as a finality. We accept them in good faith. We are one of the States of the Union. Let us seek to forget the bitterness of the past, and to place the colored people on the same level as the white people of the State. Let us seek to promote the harmony and prosperity of all sections of our great country.

The colored man now enjoys the same political and civil rights as the white man. We accept the status as given by the Constitution of this State and the United States in good faith. We regard it as a final settlement of the question. It now becomes our duty as good citizens to elevate him morally and intellectually.

Attorney General.

In August next an election will be held for Attorney General. If a man is elected who is qualified by practice, learning, etc., to discharge the duties of the office, there will be no necessity for the State Treasurer to employ extra counsel. All such duties ought to be discharged by the Attorney General, and we must look to the Attorney General to discharge them, or the office ought to be abolished.

Kemp F. Battle, Esq., of Raleigh, is the man for the place. He is a member of the Raleigh Whig, and all parties ought to agree upon him. The State would save money by securing his services as an officer, for notwithstanding we have an Attorney General, receiving pay as an officer of the State, the State Treasurer has to employ extra counsel, and recently asked the Legislature to authorize him to employ lawyers to protect the State's interest. That duty ought to be performed by the Attorney General, and Battle could do it better than any other man.

Mr. Battle would certainly make an excellent Attorney General, as would his father, Judge Battle. We see the name of Mr. Battle in connection with the name of Mr. Battle, and we see the name of Mr. Battle in connection with the name of Mr. Battle.

We endorse what is said above by our cotemporaries in regard to the individuals named. Any of them would fill the office acceptably.

We have known Mr. CONINGSLAND long and intimately, and will heartily endorse him as a high-toned gentleman and lawyer. He made his mark as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1865-'66. This is his only connection with public life. But the impression he made upon that body is alike honorable to his head and heart. If Mr. CONINGSLAND will allow his name to be used in connection with the nomination for Attorney General it would be acceptable in all parts of the State and to every opponent of Radicalism in North Carolina.

Answered.

The Raleigh Standard, in speaking of the address of the Conservative members of the Legislature, says:

"We should like to know why the same address is given to the colored man morally and intellectually, but says nothing of his duty to elevate him politically."

That paper, in common with the papers

and leaders of the Radical party, have been so accustomed to impose upon the ignorance of the colored people that sometimes they overreach themselves. In the very same paragraph of the address, and in the sentence immediately preceding the one referred to by the Standard, the announcement is clearly and distinctly made that "the colored man now enjoys the same political and civil rights as the white man." Does the Standard wish to elevate his political status above that of the whites? It might so declare, but no intelligent negro would believe it. The day has passed when the colored people can be so easily duped. They grow jealous of the aspirations of small men who have grown great by their votes, and are prudently suspicious of many of the leaders of their party. They begin to feel the pressure of the hard times, and appreciate the loss North Carolina has suffered through the incompetency and dishonesty of the friends of Governor Holden whom he has placed and kept in office. The colored people of this State know something of the history and character of Swenson, Littlefield, Jones, Sloan and Davis, of Montgomery, Holden's railroad officials, and have heard of the corruptions and frauds of the herd of carpet-baggers in and out of the Legislature, whom Holden keeps about him to do his dirty work. They can no longer be deceived into the support of such men.

The colored man has been elevated politically by the law, and the Address of the Conservative members truly says it is our duty to elevate him morally and intellectually. It is a duty arising not only from the ordinary and honorable dictates of humanity, but from self-interest. Improve the moral and intellectual condition of the colored voter, and the thieves and plunderers who have well nigh ruined the State can no longer depend upon the support of seventy thousand black men—a support obtained through the ignorance and prejudice of the blacks; improve his moral and intellectual condition and he will soon become a citizen of standing and property, and will spare the political vagabonds who are eating up the substance of the people of the State; improve his moral and intellectual condition and you break at once the chains which bind the colored man to the Radical party, and he becomes as free in opinion as he is in person; elevate his moral and intellectual condition and North Carolina will never again be cursed with the spendthrifts and profligates who have dishonored her good name and destroyed her prosperity.

A Judicial Power.

POINT CASWELL, March 31st, 1870.

Dear Journal—If you will give the following insertion in the columns of your widely circulated paper, it may serve, perhaps, as a poster to the legal profession until something better comes along. A few days since, a Southern darkey was called before a justice's court, under the charge of having assaulted and beaten his wife. The case was heard upon its merits and the accused discharged, the evidence being insufficient to sustain the charge. The supervision of the financial department of that Court being somewhat under the influence and management of a Yankee Justice, (who goes so far at times to defend the State's interest as to compel parties coming into his Court to pay officers' fees and all others, before he will let the party asking a jury have one). The accused was quickly called on for the costs of this suit, (some three dollars perhaps). The darkey refused to pay the costs, because, as he alleged, he had been acquitted, and the law holds the defeated party responsible for damages and costs. The Yankee immediately turned to him for the amount, stating that the accused and his wife were one and the same person in law; and the accused was therefore responsible for the amount of costs vs. his wife. The accused rejoined by saying that he accepted the premises of the Yankee justice as true, but that his conscious were most untrue; for if he and his wife were one and the same person in law, and he had been acquitted, his wife was also acquitted, and the State alone could be awarded the damages, and he would not pay a cent.

Respectfully, Vox.

Republican Meeting.

POINT CASWELL, March 31st, 1870.

Dear Journal—The citizens of Caswell Township assembled at Moore's Church this morning for the purpose of selecting delegates to the County Convention to be held in your city on Monday, April 4th.

On motion, Mr. A. J. Mott was chosen as Chairman, and Mr. Cupid Berry acted as Secretary.

The object of the meeting was stated by the Chairman, and the meeting was addressed by Dr. Myers of Lillington, who urged the people to stand true to the principles of the Republican party, and rally to the support of Sheriff Schenck—committing him upon his course as Sheriff of New Hanover.

Mr. John Bell, of Lillington, urged upon the citizens and the Republican electors in general to stand united and work together.

The meeting displayed the most earnest enthusiasm for the representation of the county in the coming campaign.

On motion, it was resolved that a copy of the above be handed to the Wilmington Journal, Star and Post for publication.

GLEAUCUS.

Corruption? Corruption? Corruption!!!

We continue to publish extracts from the black record made by the late Legislature. The following is a new form of rascality, and it will be seen as usual the inevitable Littlefield, the fast friend of Governor Holden and his chosen bearer of dispatches to the President, is the moving spirit in it. We are fearful that French, "our French," will blacken his own good name in his valiant attempts to wash Littlefield's dirty linen. "To what base uses we may return?"

REPORT

Of the Committee to enquire as to the means used to pass an act entitled "an act to amend an act to incorporate the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, ratified the 15th of February, 1865, and of all other acts amendatory thereof."

The Committee appointed by the President of the Senate under the provisions of a resolution ratified the 9th of March, 1870, and entitled Senate resolution of enquiry of a "bill to amend the charter of the Western North Carolina Railroad Com-

pany," beg leave to report that they found the original House bill, and which it appears from the endorsement, was introduced in the House on the 3d of April, 1869, but that a figure 9 had been blotted out partially and the figure 3 written over it. Its endorsement also shows that it passed its second and third readings on the same day. There is also endorsed on it, "as engrossed April 9th, 1869," signed with the initials of Mr. Hort (as is testified by Mr. Hinnant) who was Engrossing Clerk pro tem.

The title of the bill as endorsed on the back, is "a bill to amend an act to incorporate the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, ratified the 15th of February, 1865, and of all acts amendatory thereof." The bill as endorsed upon it Mr. Gattling's name as the introducer. No engrossed bill was in the office of the Secretary of State is apparently correct, is signed by the Speaker of the House and by the President pro tem of the Senate, (Mr. Winstead), and bears date April 9th, 1869. On the back is the certificate of Drs. Beall and Murphy, of the Senate, and of Mr. Hinnant, Hawkins and White of the House, that it is correctly enrolled.

The printed journal of the House shows that a bill was introduced in the House on April 3d at the morning session, by Mr. Gattling, entitled, "a bill to amend an act to incorporate the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, ratified the 15th of February, 1865," but it also appears from the printed laws of 1868-'69, that two acts were ratified January 29th 1869.

On the same day, under the suspension of the rules, this bill was introduced, and second and third readings, see pages 536 and 542 House Journal.

The Senate journal, both printed and manuscript, shows that a bill was received in the Senate on the 8th of April, one day before it purports to have been engrossed in the House, bearing upon the title, "Bill explanatory of an act ratified January 29th, 1869."

On the next day, April 9th, the same day of its supposed engrossment in the House, it passed its second and third readings in the Senate without the yeas and nays being recorded on its third reading or any motion of the rules being suspended to permit it to pass without its committee, see pages 664 and 665 Senate Journal.

In the afternoon session of the same day (9th of April, 1869), the journal shows that the President pro tem, signed "an act to amend an act to incorporate the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, ratified 15th February, 1865, and of all other acts amendatory thereof;" see Senate Journal, pages 675, 676.

Mr. Gattling testifies that the original bill is in his hand-writing; he did not prepare the bill and does not know who did; is not certain, but thinks Col. Tate brought the bill to his attention; understood it as a party measure, and that the bill was introduced by Governor Caldwell to get an office on the Road. It was designed to get the bill through the House in such a way as not to attract attention to its contents by the title. It was introduced, placed on the Calendar, and passed its several readings the same day, 1869, and of all other acts amendatory thereof; see Senate Journal, pages 675, 676.

Gen. Clingham testifies that he did not know anything about the bill, when or by whom it was introduced or when passed. In fact he did not know it had been passed or even been introduced until after the adjournment of the Legislature. His money was paid to procure its introduction or passage, he did not know it. That he was consulted confidentially by one person with reference to some bill relating to the subject embraced in the bill, and that he was especially requested to consider the application of the bill to a certain client and his attorney. Such information as was confided to him in that interview he did not feel at liberty to disclose, nor even to mention the name of the applicant.

Dr. Murphy testifies that it is his recollection that he read and examined the bill in connection with some one of the committee. It did not attract his attention, knowing nothing of the bill before it came before him; that it had been agreed on in committee that if a bill was signed by two of its members the others would sign on their recommendation.

Mr. Hinnant testifies that he signed the enrolled bill; that some one (does not recollect who) brought the bill to his seat, insisted that it must be signed, or as to have it introduced in the Senate before adjournment, as it was necessary that it be passed before some railroad meeting took place. That Gov. Caldwell was anxious for its passage. Signed it without seeing the original bill, but objected to doing so.

S. McD. Tate testifies that he thinks Gov. Littlefield showed him the bill. That he recommended some slight changes. Spoke to Dr. Ellis about introducing it. It was thought the bill could be carried through irregularly, and then said that he would have nothing to do with it. Never paid any member of the General Assembly, either with money or with money's worth, to get it passed. Never offered anything, either by insinuation or otherwise. No money had been paid with his knowledge to any one for the purpose of passing the bill.

Gen. Littlefield testifies that believing the stockholders had been wronged he had the bill introduced, believing that the Democrats would vote for it. He called to introduce it. Intended that it should be passed at the close of the session, when bills were passed only by reading the title. It was intended to keep the purpose of the bill concealed under its title. Recommended that it be ratified before the adjournment of the Legislature. No knowledge of any manipulation of it; no conversation with the engrossing clerk or any one else respecting it. Saw the Speaker of the House sign it in the room of the capital keeper. Does not know the hand writing of the House bill. Handed the bill to Mr. Gattling to be enrolled. It is not one word of truth in the report that \$11,000 were paid to secure its passage. Never gave a dollar to any one.

Dr. Beall testifies that he recollects nothing of the passage of the bill; was called from his seat to see a gentleman in the lobby; found Gen. Littlefield, who introduced himself and said he had an enrolled bill which he wished to have examined, was asked by Littlefield whether he was Mr. Tate's friend; made the impression on his mind that the matter was agreeable to Mr. Tate. Did not sign it then. Mr. Tate was in the city, saw him and learned that it was all right, then examined and signed it; the names of all the other members of the committee were already on the bill; did not see the original bill, did not know anything of the bill before called on to sign the report of the enrolling committee.

The committee would state that all the witnesses summoned appeared before the committee and readily answered all questions put to them, except G. W. Swenson, who first excused himself on the plea of illness and then on the illness of his wife, whom he visited with the promise to report to the committee on his return to this city, which event has not yet at this time occurred.

The committee have made frequent but ineffectual attempts to find the original journal of the House of the sessions of 1868-'69; they have, therefore, not been

able to compare the printed copy with it. Respectfully submitted,

G. W. WELKER, Chairman.

The chairman of this committee would state that his associates on the committee returned home before this report could be offered; have not seen it, but authorized the chairman to report.

The above report was made to the Senate by the chairman on Saturday last, was read, but no further action was taken.

SUNDAY READING.

BRACING THE MIND.

Travelers tell us that in some of the Eastern seas, where the wonderful coral islands exist, the insects that form the coral within the reefs, where they are under the shelter of protecting rocks, out of the reach of wind and wave, work quicker, and their work is apparently sound and good. But on the other hand, those little workers who work outside those reefs, in the foam and dash of waves, are tortured and hardened, and their work is slower and more enduring.

And so I believe it is with men. The more their minds are braced up by conflict, by the necessity of forming opinions upon difficult subjects, the better they will be qualified to go through the hard wear and tear of the world, the better they will be able to hold their own in that conflict of opinion which, after all, is a man's duty to meet.—*Canaroon.*

THOUGHTS AND FLOWERS.

It is with our thoughts as with our flowers: those that are simple in expression carry their seed with them; those that are double, charm the mind but produce nothing.

Dr. Hague says this good word for poor divinity students: "No class of persons on the earth are more worthy of remembrance in the holiday season, than a small lift may turn the trembling scale in favor of health and success. There are those here now exhibiting the heroic martyr spirit as much as any that ever lived on prison fare for Christ's sake. These are now His 'hidden ones' till 'the day of their showing unto Israel.'"

THE ONLY HOPE.

On a huge cross by the side of an Italian highway hung a hideous caricature of the Beloved of our souls, who poured out his life for our redemption. Out of reverence to the living Christ, we turned aside disgusted from the revolting image, but not until we had espied the words *Spes Unica* in capitals over his head.

Here was truth emblazoned on an idol. Yes, indeed, Jesus, our now exalted but once crucified Lord, is the sole and only hope of man. Assuredly, O Lord Jesus, thou art *Spes Unica* to our soul.

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in the field," and perhaps at last, though "five have they slain," upon the banner of the sixth will victory perch. The candidates are numerous, and many entertain a hankering after the spoils—honors are, and recently have been, of minor consideration. Larkins, the invincible Larkins, wants a seat in the House, and is determined to run. Edgar Miller has had a taste of Legislative life, though in the humble sphere of a Doorkeeper, and wants to revisit his old haunts around Raleigh. Allen Evans thinks he will do, and has got as much sense as "some of them," and says "he's going to try for it." And the country says it must have representation, and Lincoln township is hurrying for Dr. Myers and pushing his claims, while Harnett says Gus Morris must go to the "Legislatur." And here is a part of the mediator which is expected to get even more mixed at the County Convention Monday.

And then, as to the Sheriffship, Van Amringe, who was once a leading aspirant, has "sorter" waived his claims to Owen Burney, who must and will run; while Schenck is not after the nomination, though he says he won't spend one cent on the election.

The office of Register of Deeds also has its claimants; Waldron, of course, wants to stay in, and Alfred Howe is determined to give him a run for it, while the claims of Wm. Kellogg, the younger, are being very strongly presented, while Bivins comes in from the country.

Oh! there are lots of fun ahead. Just to think it has commenced thus early. Why, by the election in August, who knows but that there may be 999 candidates. Certainly the prospects are fair for it.

THE TRIAL OF THE ROBESON COUNTY PRISONERS.—The trial of these parties for the murder of ex-Sheriff King, of Robeson county, has been in progress at Whiteville, Columbus county, since Wednesday last. The trial, we hear, has been divided as to the defendants, Geo. Applewhite and Stephen Lowry have been together put upon trial, which they are now undergoing, while the two Oxendines (Calvin and Henderson) will await the result before they will be arraigned.

The State's witness, John Dial, we understand gives testimony that Geo. Applewhite was the principal in the murder and was the man who fired the gun which proved fatal to Sheriff King. Lowry was there in the party, of which Dial was a member, with a gun. On the other hand, the two negro prisoners, Williams and Watters, carried up from the jail in this place, gave testimony that Dial stated to them while in jail here that he was forced into making revelations and testifying against these parties; that they were not the real murderers of ex-Sheriff King, and that the murder was committed by other parties, whom he so greatly feared that he believed if he told on them he would certainly be killed. Being forced to tell on somebody, he preferred swearing that the parties in custody were the murderers to making the revelation as to the true parties and undergoing the certainty of being killed by such desperate characters as he knew them to be. Col. W. F. French, who is one of the counsel for the prisoners, was placed upon the stand and testified that Dial made a similar statement to him on the occasion of a visit to the prisoner in jail.

These facts we gather from the jailer of this county, Nash, who went up in charge of the prisoners, Williams and Watters, summoned as witnesses, and with whom he returned to the city Thursday night.

"Mack," the Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer, recites the following painful narrative: "In conversation with a very intelligent and accomplished gentleman, a second marriage, I learned the following facts, which throw a shadow of a sad romance over the Onida disaster. Commander Williams, the highest officer on the vessel, and one of the lost, was a widower, of something less than forty, and the father of two bright little children. In May last he contracted an engagement with a second marriage, which was to have taken place very soon after the arrival of the Onida in the country. I believe it was fixed for the middle of April. He left the United States for Japan in June last, and just before his departure he was one of a dinner party at which his friends were gathered. His bride was also present. Had he returned safely he would have known a fate which his brave heart would not have met with the cool courage that faced death at his post on the quarter-deck. Since the first of January his two children and his intended wife have died. When the news reached he had not heard this sad news, but supposed he was coming home to meet them in all health and happiness. So to one, at least, of the gallant men who went down in the ill-fated steamer, death cannot be called disaster.

Political Disabilities.

In the House of Representatives, Wednesday, Mr. Paine, of Wisconsin, from committee on reconstruction, reported a bill to remove political disabilities from Henry B. Harnesberger and N. J. Trout, of Virginia.

Messrs. Cox and Banks both joined in singling out individuals for amnesty in this way, and Mr. Butler, in answer to questions, said that as soon as the tariff bill was out of the way, he would press the general disability bill.

Storm Signals.

Through an act of Congress authorizing storm signals to be established at forts and military stations the signal office has decided to test the plan of A. Watson, of this city, by means of the telegraph and cannon. If possible it should be tested so as to become generally established through public authority in every city, county-seat, and principal town, in time for the coming harvest.—*Washington Chronicle.*

The Colored Vote Too Late for the Connecticut Election.

HARTFORD, March 31.

Many papers outside of this State contend that the proclamation gives colored men the right to vote here on the 4th of April. This is calculated to cause embarrassment, and the Republican State committee authorize the statement that it is too late for the colored men to comply with the provisions of the registry law, therefore they cannot vote this election.

The Democracy of Connecticut are confident of carrying that State at the coming election.

Here and there in California a storekeeper announces that he will hereafter "receive greenbacks at par."

THE XVTH AMENDMENT.

Its Ratification Announced.—Message of the President.—Proclamation of Secretary Fish.

WASHINGTON, March 20, 1870.

The following documents were sent in to Congress to-day:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

It is unusual to notify the two Houses of Congress by message of the promulgation by proclamation of the Secretary of State of the ratification of a Constitutional Amendment. In view, however, of the vast importance of the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution, this day declared a part of that revered instrument, I deem a departure from the usual custom justifiable. The measure which makes at once four millions of people who were heretofore declared by the highest tribunal in the land not citizens of the United States, nor eligible to become so (with the assertion that "at the time of the Declaration of Independence the opinion was fixed and universal in the civilized portion of the white race, that colored men were not and were not to be regarded as men, but as property, as well as in politics, that black men had no rights which white men were bound to respect"), is indeed a measure of grander importance than any other one act of the kind from the foundation of our free Government to the present time.

It is a measure which, in which all power is centered directly from the people, must depend mainly upon their intelligence, patriotism and industry. I call the attention, therefore, of the newly enfranchised race to the importance of their striving, in every honorable manner, to make themselves worthy of the new privilege. To the race more favored heretofore by our laws I would say, withhold no legal privilege of advancement to the new citizen. The framers of our Constitution firmly believed that a republican form of government could not endure without intelligence and education generally diffused among the people. The "Father of his Country," in his Farewell Address, uses this language:

"Promote then, as a matter of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of government gives force to the general will, it is incumbent that public opinion should be enlightened."

In his first annual message to Congress the same views were forcibly presented, and are again urged in his eighth message. I repeat that the adoption of the Fifteenth amendment to the Constitution completes the greatest civil change and the most important improvement of the law which has occurred since the nation came into life. The change will be beneficial in proportion to the heed that is given to the urgent recommendations of Washington. If these recommendations were important then, with a population of but a few millions, how much more important now, with a population of forty millions, and increasing in a rapid ratio!

I would therefore call upon Congress to take all the means within their constitutional powers to promote and encourage popular education throughout the country, and upon the people everywhere to see to it that all who possess the right of political rights shall have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge which will make their share in the Government a blessing, and not a danger. By such means only can the benefits contemplated by this amendment to the Constitution be secured.

U. S. SENATE.

Executive Mansion, March 30, 1870.

Proclamation.—Hamilton Fish Secretary of State of the United States.

To all Whom These Presents May Come, Greeting: Know ye that the Congress of the United States on or about the 27th day of February, in the year 1869, passed a resolution in the words to wit:

"A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States: 'Article 15, section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.'"

"Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

And further, that it appears from official documents on file in this Department that the amendment to the Constitution of the United States proposed as aforesaid has been ratified by the Legislatures of the States of North Carolina, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Maine, Louisiana, Michigan, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, New York, New Hampshire, Nevada, Vermont, Virginia, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Nebraska and Texas—in all twenty-nine States.

And further, that the States whose Legislatures have so ratified the said proposed amendment constitute three-fourths of the whole number of States in the United States.

And further, that it appears from an official document on file in this Department that the Legislature of the State of New York has since passed resolutions claiming to withdraw the said ratification of the said amendment, and that the Secretary of the Legislature of that State, and of which official notice had been filed in this Department.

And further, that it appears from an official document on file in this Department, that the Legislature of Georgia has, by its action, ratified the said proposed amendment.

Now, therefore, be it known that I, Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State of the United States, by virtue and in pursuance of the second section of the act of Congress, approved the 29th day of April, in the year 1868, entitled "An act to provide for the publication of the laws of the United States, and for other purposes," do hereby certify that the amendment aforesaid has become valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution of the United States.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Department of State to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and of the independence of the United States the forty-fourth.

(Signed) HAMILTON FISH.

Tying the Flag to the North Pole.

The Chicago Times is responsible for the subjoined piece of high treason: Capt. Hall, the Arctic explorer, proposes for the sum of \$100,000, to tie the American flag to the North Pole. Captain Hall is more outspoken than some of the Washington "attorneys," who practice in a similar line of business, though his prices seem not to be higher. Mr. Robert J. Walker received a much larger sum for tying the American flag to a pole in Alaska, and of the \$650,000 that was more recently sent out to tie the American flag to a pole in San Domingo, only about \$60,000 is said to have been disbursed there; the remainder returned to Washington. In the same ship, along with the albatross who "tied the flag," Tying the American flag to a pole somewhere is one of the most profitable branches of law practice which Washington attorneys now find to occupy their business hours.

There is no truer saying than "sweet are the uses of advertisements."

Removal of Disabilities.

Although we have published the list of those whose disabilities have been removed in the Third Congressional District, we republish them in connection with those throughout the State, from whom the disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth Amendment have been removed: